



State of Alaska Local Boundary Commission

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UNORGANIZED BOROUGH REVIEW UPDATE

December 11, 2002

The 2002 Legislature unanimously passed SB 359; Governor Knowles signed it into law as Chapter 53, SLA 2002. The law took effect September 17, 2002. Section 3 of the law provides that:

Sec. 3. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to read:

NEW BOROUGH INCORPORATION. The Local Boundary Commission shall review conditions in the unorganized borough. By the 30th day of the First Regular Session of the Twenty-Third Alaska State Legislature, the commission shall report to the legislature the areas it has identified that meet the standards for incorporation. No portion of the report under this section constitutes a Local Boundary Commission proposal for purposes of art. X, sec. 12, Constitution of the State of Alaska.

Under the project work plan adopted by the Local Boundary Commission (LBC) on October 22, the LBC made a **preliminary** determination on December 9 as to which areas in Alaska's unorganized borough **may** have the financial capacity to operate borough governments. The following eight areas were so identified and will be studied further to determine whether they meet all standards for borough incorporation:

- Prince William Sound Model Borough
- Aleutians West Model Borough/Aleutians-Military Model Borough (combined)
- Wrangell-Petersburg Model Borough
- Upper Tanana Model Borough
- Glacier Bay Model Borough
- Copper River Basin Model Borough
- Prince of Wales Model Borough
- Chatham Model Borough

A map of those eight areas, other information about the unorganized borough review, and the opportunity for a free subscription service for future LBC notices and project updates are available on the LBC project website at

<http://www.dced.state.ak.us/cbd/lbc/boroughstudy.htm>

A transcript of that portion of the Commission's December 9 meeting regarding the unorganized borough review will be posted to the website listed above on or about December 19.

Questions or comments concerning the unorganized borough review may be directed to the Commission's staff at the telephone, mailing address and/or e-mail address listed below

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